

DAILY DEMOCRAT.

Touching Incident.

THE DEATH BRIDAL.

"Here was the scene of the death bridal," said the author of the touching incident, "a quiet, secluded church-yard, high among the mountains."

"What was that?" inquired his companion whose attention was instantly aroused by anything that promised a legend.

"Rather a curious story," returned Herman; "a sort of revival of some middle age superstition, I suppose. I have heard of it from my mother Marguerite, who knew all the parties. Suppose, instead of proceeding to the town, we stay to-night at her *chateau*; it is very little out of our way, and there is a glorious view thence, which will well repay us."

"The legend is a touching one," answered Herman, "and we will have a good time. They were enjoying the welcome and cordial hospitality of the old peasant."

Supper being ended, the young men went out in front of the cottage, and watched with the enjoyment of artists, the splendid effect of the sunset on the extensive view below. The stars were out, the moon already high in the heavens, blazed a cold, blue lustre, with the warmer tints still lingering in the west.

Marguerite having finished her household labors, came to the door with her knitting; but it was not until the last gleam of sunset had faded from the sky, that Herman had told her.

"Marguerite, will you tell us about the death bridal?"

"'Poor Aline,'" said she, sighing; "she was so young and so fair; we had been friends from the time we could walk or speak, and her cousin, but not one look, well he loved her."

"She was gone, although he had always been fond of her; but she was the favorite of the whole parish. When Aline was about sixteen, she went to spend a year with some relatives in Geneva.

"Claude had never told her that he loved her; he was poor, and she would not be his wife; then they were both so young, and perhaps he would try to hire her. I always think he felt that he was not long for this world, and he would not seduce her life by any grief that he could spare her; or perhaps mother Agnace was right. But she was gone, and he had no son."

When the winter was gone, he died. When he was dead found on his heart a little case like those carry charm in; but it contained a lock of Aline's hair, and a flower she had given him the day she went away. We did not remove it, but laid it with him in the grave."

"Louise started, and was silent; but one of the others said:

"'Did you not know that poor Claude is dead?'

"'My poor Claude uttered but one cry, so long and bitter that it seemed her life must go with it, and the fell as if dead.'

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